STORET/WQX Conference Call – October 16, 2008, 12:00-1:00 PM Eastern Time

Introduction (Kristen Gunthardt)
- **The minutes from all previous conference calls are available over the web: http://www.epa.gov/storet/confcalls.html**
- **The next scheduled call will be November 20, 2008.**
- **Please email storet@epa.gov and let EPA know you have attended the call so that meeting rosters may be kept.**
- **If you have a special topic you'd like to lead for an upcoming call, please email Gunthardt.Kristen@epamail.epa.gov**
- **EPA would like to hear comments you have on the quality of these conference calls. Please send them to storet@epa.gov**
- **Please subscribe to the STORET automated listserver for announcements regarding conference calls: http://www.epa.gov/storet/listserv.html**

WQX Web Demonstration (Dwane Young)
- **WQX Web will be deployed in January in the CDX web environment. Users will be able to interact with the tool by logging into myCDX.**
- **Like WebSIM, files must be loaded in the order of projects, stations and results.**
- **WQX Web allows you direct access to the lookup tables and the ability to directly add your own analytical methods, sample collection methods and other data element values into the look up tables.**
- **WQX Web also provides the user the capability to map multiple columns in the import file to one column, mimicking the characteristic group capability.**
- **WQX Web defines import configurations similar to WebSIM.**
- **If you would like a basic overview of the tool layout, mockup pages have been posted at http://www.epa.gov/storet/xml_gen_tool.html.**

OEI Final Solicitation Notice for Exchange Network Grant
- **U.S. EPA has released the final FY 2009 Exchange Network Grant Solicitation Notice. Information is available on the EPA website at http://www.epa.gov/exchangenetwork/grants.**
- **The application deadline for FY2009 Exchange Network grants is November 21, 2008.**

STORET Team Update
- **Dwane is joining the RCRA program at the end of November.**

Web services with USGS
- **We have been working with USGS for a year to create web services that serve up data from STORET and USGS in compatible formats.**
- **Users are able to call both STORET and NWIS in the same formats so that data from both programs can easily be compared and combined for analysis. Even the characteristic names have been mapped for compatibility.**
- **EPA is continuing to work on creating cataloging services.**

Q and A
Q: Can you share WQX Web settings with other users?
A: Both import configurations and lookup values can be shared across organizations.
Q: Is WQX Web able to process portable datalogger data?
A: WQX Web handles summary information the same way WebSIM does.
Q: Are any WQX Web trainings scheduled?

A: We have a training scheduled this month but will most likely push all other trainings until the final WQX Web is deployed in January.

Q: Is the Microsoft Access Generation Tool available on the website?

A: The Microsoft Access Generation Tool is just an example of how you can develop code to create XML. Please email **storet@epa.gov** if you'd like to obtain a copy of this example XML conversion tool.

Q: Where are lookup data tables physically stored?

A: The warehouse, including the lookup tables, is stored on a server at EPA.

Q: What happens if you add the same data element more than once? For example, if I add the same monitoring location information in two different submissions, will it create duplicates?

A: No. As long as the identifier is the same (e.g., the monitoring location ID is the same ID provided in both submissions), WQX will update the monitoring location with whatever information was provided in the last submission.

Q: Is there anything that I can do in the standalone version of SIM and WebSIM but cannot do in WQX Web?

A: WQX Web cannot export configurations to your hard drive. Instead, configurations can be shared across users.

Q: What is the number of record which can be uploaded at one time?

A: The record limit has not been tested but WQX Web can process data much faster than SIM or WebSIM can (over 3x faster), so it should be pretty high. We haven't tested the size limit that WQX Web can process and generate XML as of yet either.

Q: Will more demonstrations like this event be available?

A: We would be more than happy to give more demonstrations, however the next one will probably not be scheduled until December when WQX Web is more stable.

Q: Does WQX Web handle BLOBs?

A: Yes.

Q: Is WQX Web available as a standalone application or is it available through the web only? (R10)

A: WQX Web is a web-based application.

Q: Does WQX Web allow users to delete data from the Warehouse as well as upload?

A: Yes, you just need to provide the unique identifier for what you are trying to delete. The delete function is a cascading function so that if a project is deleted everything within that project is deleted.

Q: Does the validation step involve a schematron check?

A: WQX Web is different than WebSIM and SIM in that the first validation step ensures that the submitted file meets the basic requirements for a WQX schema file and that all domain value rules have been followed. The second step is a business rule check enforced by WQX (e.g., if the coordinates for a monitoring location was interpolated using a map, this is the step that would verify that a source-map scale is present). Validation checks are happening at different places the WebSIM, but the same validations are taking place to allow for consistency in the business rules.

Q: Are partial uploads possible?

A: Yes, if only part of a file fails, the valid portions of the file will be submitted as noted in the processing report. You can choose to resubmit all of the records or just the records that failed.

Q: What are the rules for who can submit data to WQX Web? Can a contractor use my account? Does WQX Web accept data from volunteer monitoring? (R10)

A: As long as an organization gives the user permission to submit data under the organization, CDX can set up an account for the contractor and we can

give the contractor privileges to submit data to the organization with their own account. We are also hoping that WQX Web enables volunteers to submit more data than ever before.

Q: **Will the STORET team demo WQX Web at the Maryland Water Council meeting in December?**

A: **We are planning to give a demonstration but it may not be a live demo.**

Q: **When is the projected deployment date for WQX Web?**

A: **The current timeframe is set for January.**

Q: **Is there a cutoff for how old the data submitted through WQX Web can be?**

A: **There is no cutoff date. If you have relevant data from any date, you can submit the data using WQX Web.**

Q: **How is data getting transferred from STORET?**

A: **The data does not have to be moved from STORET to WQX, but you may want to so you can reference it along with future data submittals. Also, if you want to make changes to data from STORET, it has to be loaded into WQX. A lot of states are resubmitting all of their data. Once the data is resubmitted, then we take the old data out of the STORET warehouse so it is only housed in WQX.**

Q: **Can you alter any data from other user accounts within an organization?**

A: **Yes, if you have update/delete privileges, you can alter any data within your organization.**

Q: **Is the data from STORET not being migrated to WQX?**

A: **We can do that, but it doesn't make sense to migrate all of the data. We can do it on a situational basis.**

Q: **Is the data still refreshed on a monthly basis?**

A: **There will be a weekly refresh which will update just the updated or uploaded data instead of the entire database.**

Q: **What is the username or password needed to access WQX Web?**

A: **Users will need a CDXweb account and will use that username and password. You can request an account once WQX Web is deployed on the website. We would then need to approve you and get you set up to submit data to your organization.**

Q: **Do we need accounts with both NAAS and CDX Web?**

A: **For states, the preferred way to submit data to WQX is to generate XML and submit using your NAAS account and node or node client. If you submit data using your NAAS account, you don't need to use CDX Web.**

Q: **Is there a portal where you can query both USGS and STORET?**

A: **There is currently no funding for this development but we are hoping someone creates this web service and shares it.**

Q: **Are there plans to make WQX spatially enabled?**

A: **Not that I'm aware of, but there is some discussion to make data retrievable by spatial coordinate bounding and there is a work plan for ODC-type retrieval. You can currently retrieve data with KML though.**

Participants on call (based on who emailed storet@epa.gov)

Andrea Thomas	NC DWQ
Linda Cartwright	TN DEC
Arne Sjodin	Colorado Dept. of Public Health & Environment
Jolene McQuillan	Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Mellony Hoskinson	RTI International
Matt Gubitosa	EPA Region 10
Paul Andrews	RTI
Miranda Nichols	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Jim Porter	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Thomas R. Dallaire	MassDEP, DWM
Bruce Tuttle	Idaho Dept of Water Resources
Jennifer Cuhaciyan	Idaho Dept of Water Resources
Won Kim	Oregon DEQ
Paul Koska	EPA R6
Michael Whitman	WV DEP